

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, PA, US, XM

SUBJECT: COMMENTATOR DOWNPLAYS FUROR OVER TRADE ACT

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. IN A STATEMENT TYPICAL OF PARAGUAY'S CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE ON THE SUBJECT, PARAGUAY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL INTERNATIONAL COMMENTATOR DEPLORES THE RECENT LATIN AMERICAN OUTBURST AGAINST THE TRADE ACT AND CALLS FOR GREATER COMPREHENSION OF THE WORKINGS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. FORMER PARAGUAY AMBASSADOR ANTONIO SALUM-FLECHA SETS FORTH A DISPASSIONATE ANALYSIS OF THE PROCESS OF FOREIGN POLICY FORMULATION IN THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING THE CURRENT DISPUTE OVER THE RULES THEREIN OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES, IN THIS WEEK'S COLUMN IN EL COLORADO. WHILE CLEARLY FAVORING THE GREATER ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE, HE RECOMMENDS THAT FOREIGN DIPLOMATS CULTIVATE CLOSER CONTACTS WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS.

2. ALTHOUGH HE ECHOES FEARS THAT A LACK OF UNITY ON FOREIGN POLICY BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE RISKS MISUNDERSTANDING OF U.S. INTENTIONS ABROAD, SALUM-FLECHA INSISTS THAT FRIENDSHIP WITH THE U.S. MUST BE MAINTAINED IN ANY CASE.

"THE SOVIETS UNDERSTAND THIS; WHY CANNOT THE LATIN AMERICANS?"

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END CLASSIFIED.

3. COMMENT: BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. SALUM-FLECHA, PARAGUAY'S
WALTER LIPPMAN, IS ONE OF THE NATION'S MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OBSERVERS. ALTHOUGH PRESENTLY HOLDING A LUCRATIVE
BANKING POSITION, HE IS STILL REGARDED AS A DARK HORSE TO
SUCCEED FOREIGN MINISTER RAUL SAPENA PASTOR SOME DAY OR SERVE
AS AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
LANDAU

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